

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 SP-02 H-02 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:OVARSTRONG:CB

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HABIB

EA - MR. GLEYSTEN

S/P - MR. LORD (DRAFT)

H - MR. MC CLOSKEY (DRAFT)

S/S - REWOODS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 183

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) OREP (CODEL ALBERT-RHODES),

PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: VISIT TO PRC BY SPEAKER ALBERT AND MINORITY

LEADER RHODES

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM HABIB AND LORD

1. FOLLOWING IS STATUS REPORT ON ALBERT/RHODES VISIT TO
PRC. -

2. ALBERT STATES HE WISHED TO TAKE FIVE STAFF MEMBERS
PLUS A DOCTOR, AND RHODES THREE (INCLUDING ONE SPOUSE).
WHITE HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON SUGGESTED SMALLER PARTY,
BUT AT ALBERT/RHODES INSISTENCE, WE GAVE THE LIST TO
PRCLO, EXPLAINING WE WERE DOING SO AT SPECIFIC
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REQUEST OF ALBERT/RHODES. IF CHINESE ACCEPT THE LIST,

PARTY WILL TOTAL 15 (INCLUDING MRS. ALBERT AND MRS. RHODES AND TWO STATE DEPARTMENT ESCORT OFFICERS, ONE SUBSTANTIVE AND ONE ADMINISTRATIVE).

3. AS ALBERT WANTS TO LEAVE ON MARCH 26 WITH TWO OVER-NIGHT STOPS EN ROUTE, WE INFORMED PRCLO PARTY WOULD ENTER PRC ABOUT MARCH 29 AND LEAVE ABOUT APRIL 7. ALSO THAT ALBERT/RHODES HAD FEW SPECIFIC REQUESTS CONCERNING ITINERARY. IN ADDITION PEKING AND SHANGHAI, THEY WOULD

LIKE SOME EXPOSURE TO RURAL AREAS, INDUSTRY, EDUCATION AND MEDICINE.

4. PRCLO DID NOT REACT TO PARTY COMPOSITION OR ININERARY SUGGESTIONS, MERELY SAYING THEY WOULD SEND THE INFORMATION TO PEKING AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH US LATER.

5. NEWS OF TRIP LEAKED TO THE PRESS FROM THE HILL MARCH 5. AFTER CONSULTING PRCLO, WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED TRIP MARCH 6, NOTING THAT TRIP WAS ARRANGED THROUGH DISCUSSIONS INITIATED BY YOU.

6. JOURNALISTS ZEROED IN ON WHETHER IT IS LEGAL FOR MEMBERS OF PARTY TO ACCEPT PRC PAYMENT OF IN-COUNTRY EXPENSES, IN VIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION AGAINST ACCEPTING "EMOLUMENTS" FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE, WHICH OBTAINED FROM COMPTROLLER GENERAL A RULING IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL UNLESS THERE WERE CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION, ALBERT/RHODES HAVE DECIDED TO OBTAIN JOINT CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRIP.

7. WE WILL SEND A MESSAGE SHORTLY REQUESTING YOUR GUIDANCE ON BRIEFING AND LUNCHEON FOR ALBERT/RHODES. INGERSOLL

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